

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below:

1. (Currently amended) A method for ~~transforming~~ characterizing gene expression signals,
5 the method comprising the steps of:

determining a plurality of gene expression signals for a gene; and

~~deriving a transformation for transforming the plurality of gene expression signals~~
~~into transformed gene expression signals for the gene; transforming said plurality of gene~~
~~expression signals, wherein application of said transformation transforming results in~~
10 ~~transformed gene expression signals having a uniform distribution of the transformed said gene~~
~~expression signals within a selected interval[.];~~

using said transformed gene expression signals wherein each gene expression
signal is converted by the transformation into a transformed gene expression signal in the
selected interval, wherein said transformation allows said transformed gene expression signals to
15 be compared, and wherein the uniform distribution of transformed gene expression signals may
be used to determine gene expression patterns; and

characterizing gene expression of an unknown sample by comparing said gene
expression of said unknown sample with said gene expression patterns.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transforming
~~applying the transformation to an additional gene expression signals of an additional sample.~~

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of ~~deriving~~ transforming
25 comprises the steps of:

determining a function that approximates a distribution of the plurality of gene

expression signals for the gene; and

using the function to ~~create the transformation~~ transform said plurality of gene expression signals, wherein said transformed gene expression signals have a uniform distribution of said gene expression signals within a selected interval.

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4. (Canceled)

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13. (Canceled)

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15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

5 a memory that stores computer-readable code; and
a processor operatively coupled to the memory, the processor configured to
implement the computer-readable code, the computer-readable code configured to:
determine a plurality of gene expression signals for a gene; and
derive a transformation for transforming the plurality of gene expression signals
10 ~~into transformed gene expression signals for the gene;~~ transform said plurality of gene expression
signals, wherein ~~application of said transformation transforming~~ results in transformed gene
expression signals having a uniform distribution of ~~the transformed~~ said gene expression signals
within a selected interval[,];
use said transformed gene expression signals wherein each gene expression signal
15 ~~is converted by the transformation into a transformed gene expression signal in the selected~~
~~interval, wherein said transformation allows said transformed gene expression signals to be~~
~~compared, and wherein the uniform distribution of transformed gene expression signals may be~~
~~used to determine gene expression patterns; and~~
characterize gene expression of an unknown sample by comparing said gene
20 expression of said unknown sample with said gene expression patterns.

18. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the computer-readable code is
further configured to ~~apply the transformation to~~ transform gene expression signals of an
25 additional ~~gene expression signal~~ sample.

19. (Currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the computer-readable code is

further configured, during the step of deriving, to perform the steps of:

determine a function that approximates a distribution of the plurality of gene expression signals for the gene; and

use the function to ~~create the transformation~~ transform said plurality of gene expression signals, wherein said transformed gene expression signals have a uniform distribution of said gene expression signals within a selected interval.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, the computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to determine a plurality of gene expression signals for a gene; and

a step to ~~deriving a transformation for transforming the plurality of gene expression signals into transformed gene expression signals for the gene;~~ transform said plurality of gene expression signals, wherein application of said transformation transforming results in transformed gene expression signals having a uniform distribution of the transformed said gene expression signals within a selected interval[,];

a step to use said transformed gene expression signals wherein each gene expression signal is converted by the transformation into a transformed gene expression signal in the selected interval, wherein said transformation allows said transformed gene expression signals to be compared, and wherein the uniform distribution of transformed gene expression signals may be used to determine gene expression patterns; and

a step to characterize gene expression of an unknown sample by comparing said

gene expression of said unknown sample with said gene expression patterns.

24. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the computer-
5 readable code means further comprises a step to ~~apply the transformation to~~ transform gene
expression signals of an additional ~~gene expression signal~~ sample.

25. (Currently amended) The article of manufacture of claim 23, wherein the computer-
10 readable code means is further configured, during the step of deriving, to perform:

a step to determine a function that approximates a distribution of the plurality of
gene expression signals for the gene; and

a step to use the function to ~~create the transformation~~ transform said plurality of
gene expression signals, wherein said transformed gene expression signals have a uniform
15 distribution of said gene expression signals within a selected interval.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the selected interval comprises
an interval between 0 and 1.